

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-9 (canceled).

10. (new) A roof module for vehicles, for installation on a vehicle body in which an opening has been made of approximately the same dimensions as the roof and defined by front and rear body cross members and rails, the roof module comprising:

an original roof panel, with its end finish;

a full conventional interior trim, normally of larger dimensions than the roof panel, and pre-installed interior accessories, the roof panel having dished recesses at its front and rear edges which are engagable underneath the front and rear body cross members so as to at least partially cover them, said roof panel also having at least one perimeter step that matches up positionally with peripheral shoulders provided both on the front and rear cross members and on the side rails of the body, so as to jointly make up a contact surface through which the roof module is joinable to the body.

11. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 10, wherein the body cross members are closed on top by panels that cover the body cross member and provide the form and finish pertaining to an exterior body of the vehicle, thereby replacing a part of the roof that is dispensed with and not covered by the roof module.

12. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 10, wherein the roof panel has a through opening for fastening devices of some of the interior accessories comprised in the roof module, so that the fastening devices of these accessories will pass through both the trim and the roof panel.

13. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 10, wherein the trim is dimensioned to exceed dimensions of the roof panel at side areas of the roof, so that the interior accessories positioned in that area are pre-installed on the trim only and will be fastened directly to a frame of the vehicle body, without passing through the roof module roof panel.

14. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 10, wherein the cross members are provided with a series of holes that enable a series of locating elements to be set in place to assist installation of the roof module on the body, the locating elements being arranged on the roof module so as to be removable after the module is attached.

15. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 10, wherein at least one bead of adhesive is arranged between the perimeter steps in the roof panel and the cross member and rail perimeter shoulders for bonding the roof module to the vehicle body.

16. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 15, wherein mechanical fasteners are provided at certain points of the roof panel perimeter steps to secure the roof module while the adhesive is setting.

17. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 16, wherein the mechanical fasteners are removable.

18. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 15, wherein stress transmitter elements are arranged between the roof panel and the trim so as to match up with the perimeter steps in the panel, the stress transmitter elements being configured to enable force to be applied to the trim so that the metal panel sticks to the perimeter shoulders of the vehicle body frame cross members and rails, without damaging the interior trim due to pressure exerted.

19. (new) The roof module for vehicles according to claim 15, wherein at least one bead of adhesive forms a continuous ring so to act as a sealing strip.